



**One Hundred First Legislature - First Session - 2009**  
**Introducer's Statement of Intent**  
**LB 375**

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**Chairperson:** Brad Ashford  
**Committee:** Judiciary  
**Date of Hearing:** February 27, 2009

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 375 would allow a plaintiff to obtain a judgment for costs alone in instances where the defendant pays the principal amount sued upon by the plaintiff subsequent to the lawsuit's filing. Closely related to the first major change, the amended law would also provide a plaintiff filing suit pursuant to the statute with explicit authority to recover its out-of-pocket court costs from the defendant by voluntary settlement. Currently, the statute's text requires the plaintiff to obtain judgment for an outstanding principal amount before a court may order that the plaintiff recover those court costs from the defendant. Secondly, the bill increases the statutory limit portion of the statute from \$2,000 to \$4,000, which means that the statute would apply to claims of up to \$4,000, instead of the current \$2,000 ceiling.

**Principal Introducer:**

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**Senator Scott Lautenbaugh**